



Rose Lore



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Mary Van Vlack, Editor

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AUGUST MEETING

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, August 12 at 7 pm. Marylou Coffman will present our program, a preview of new roses coming out this year. As she provides each year, this will be a program filled with beautiful pictures and enticing descriptions of roses we might like to enjoy in our own gardens. Be sure to have pencil and paper handy in case you want to take notes!

While we await permission from Mesa Community College to resume in-person meetings, we will again meet on Zoom.



Again, we won't be having a raffle this month, but the good news is that you can choose your own refreshments and enjoy them throughout the meeting.

One of Marylou's arrangements in the East Asian manner, the rose is 'Black Magic'

The link to join the Zoom Meeting is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4770043990>

The Meeting ID: 477 004 3990

If you need help, you may contact Sherman Weekes or Pat Thiel for assistance in using Zoom.

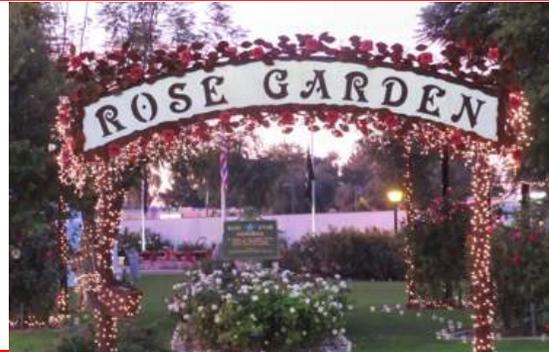
PRESIDENT'S LETTER

BY HELEN BAIRD

We use the word monsoon all the time so I thought I would look up the definition. It seems that we are in either a dry or wet monsoon. The dry monsoon is from October thru April and then the wet monsoon starts in May and runs thru Sept when we again go into a dry monsoon. So, the monsoon never stops. That schedule is just like what our roses require in care. We never stop caring for them. As we are beginning to cool in the weather, I will begin to increase my fertilizing of the roses in preparation for the November blooms and the possibility of a rose show in Mesa and in Glendale. This is the month that I will return to my schedule of one cup of fertilizer a month for the hybrid teas and one half a cup for the miniatures.

IN THE GARDEN August 2021

MARYLOU COFFMAN -
LEROY BRADY,
GARDEN CURATORS



Our thanks to all the Deadheaders who have been working through the summer to keep the garden looking beautiful. These great people keep the garden deadheaded and keep the weeds down. They also make sure the watering system is working properly.

We have a lot of visitors in the garden. They come from many places across the world. Several have left very nice comments in our suggestion boxes. The garden is open from sunrise to sunset each day. Why not take stroll through the garden early morning or late afternoon to see what roses thrive in our heat?



Here are a few I know you will enjoy.

In Bed D, Section Two we have 35 outstanding orange hybrid tea roses. 'Ring of Fire', they make a stunning display of fiery orange petals that last till the petals drop. Blooms are four to five inches across, on long stems, with glossy dark green foliage. This is a rose for everyone whether you want to exhibit in our rose show or just cut and bring into the house. Chris Greenwood is the hybridizer.

At the other end of the garden, we have one of the most vibrant beds in the garden. It is simply called the yellow bed. It contains 35 yellow roses, hybrid teas, grandifloras, floribundas and shrubs. Several of the yellow roses are familiar to all of us.



'Julia Child,' hybridized in 2006 by Tom Carruth for Weeks Roses. This is everybody's favorite yellow. A soft butter yellow bloom with 35 petals and a wonderful licorice candy fragrance. It has glossy dark green foliage, grows between three and four feet tall. We have at least sixty of these roses growing in different areas of the garden.

'Sparkle & Shine', another great yellow rose. It is related to 'Julia Child'. Medium green foliage with large clusters of blooms, continuously in bloom. It also

retains that bright yellow color in our heat. A great garden rose as well as an exhibitor's Queen spray. The parentage is 'Julie Newmar' and 'Julia Child', hybridized by Christian Bedard for Weeks Roses.

'Walking On Sunshine', hybridized by Keith Zary for Jackson and Perkins. This is a light to medium yellow



floribunda with dark green foliage. The petal edges are ruffled, and it blooms in large clusters. This rose is always in bloom. It has a moderate anise fragrance. You can find this rose in Bed A, Section Two as well.



There are many other yellow roses in this bed, such as, 'Sunstruck', 'Shockwave', 'Summer Love', 'Ch-Ching', 'Happy Go Lucky', 'Tequila Gold', 'Golden Showers',

'Saint Patrick', 'Sunshine Daydream' and 'Golden Sun'.

There are others there, so just take walk in the garden and see what's blooming now. You just might find the rose you've been looking for.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE ROSE WORLD

HORIZON ROSES

Every year Bob Martin, current ARS president and former Mesa resident and MEVRS member, publishes a book called *Horizon Roses*. It contains reviews from people all over the country of most of the roses that have come on the market in the last five years.

Horizon Roses 2021 contains 1,752 reports by 143 reporters from 29 different states on the exhibition potential of 263 roses introduced in the last five years. The reports include 107 new roses not mentioned in the prior issue. All comments are candid and reported in the words of the reporter. Supplementing the comments are individual color photographs of 260 roses. The reports are set forth alphabetically and include statistics of the show results of the reported varieties. In addition, information is provided on known sources for the reviewed varieties.

Reviewers who grow roses in hot, desert climates include Rick & Olivia Bennett (Palm Desert, CA), Dave & Gerry Mahoney (Glendale, AZ), Lou Pavlovich (Tucson, AZ), Ryan Regehr (Chandler, AZ), Hal Reynolds (Palm Springs, CA), and Mary Van Vlack (Phoenix, AZ).



'Celestial Night'

Horizon Roses 2021 is available in electronic format for Kindle at a price of \$9.95. It can be ordered at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) here.

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09BLF6ZGJ>

Horizon Roses 2021 is also available in full-color high-quality 8 ½ x 11 paperback at a price of \$42.95. It can also be ordered at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) at the same link.

Horizon Roses 2021 is also available as a PDF directly at \$9.95. For further information, feel free to contact Bob Martin, at <mailto:roseshow.com>.

ROSES IN REVIEW

There is still time to contribute your ratings of newer roses to the Roses in Review program. For a complete list of the candidates along with straightforward instructions, just visit the ARS website and click on RIR. Anyone who grows roses in their home garden can contribute their ratings – ARS members, local rose society members, folks who don't belong to any organization. For CRs it is an expectation that they will contribute their evaluations as one of their responsibilities.

MEVRS EVENTS AND COVID

Plans are underway for many great rose events in the months ahead. While we all want so much to return to some degree of normalcy, it also appears that the COVID 19 is not finished with us. Therefore,

please treat these dates as aspirational, conditioned on a reduction in cases and, in approval of Mesa Community College for use of their facilities.

Here are the dates Marylou Coffman has requested from the college:

- October 30, 2021, Horticulture and Arrangement workshop Plaza, Section Two, Mesa Community College
- November 13, 2021, Palm Springs Rose Show
- November 20, 2021, Mesa-East Valley Rose Show - Library, Mesa Community College
- December 4, 2021, Arizona Rose Society - Room 300, Library, Mesa Community College
- December 18, 2021, Ikebana Workshop - Plaza, Section Two, Mesa Community College
- She also asked for Room 145, Library for our monthly meetings.

ARS ELECTIONS

The winners of the ARS 2021 Triennial Election have been declared. Craig Dorschel has been elected Vice President, a position from which he will automatically become president in three years. Kreg Hill has been elected Southwest Regional Director. Beginning this year there will only be four regional directors instead of the previous nine, so this is an important position going forward. Linda Clark has been voted to a second three-year term as Pacific Southwest District Director. For more election results, please visit the ARS website.

THE 2021 MESA-EAST VALLEY ROSE SHOW

Editor's Note: I do hope you all share my delight that next November we will be hosting a rose show, something we and most other rose societies were not able to do in 2020. Rose shows serve several purposes. While they do allow the most expert rose growers to show off their treasures, there is much more. Shows give all our members the opportunity to share the beauty of the roses we love and to give each of us motivation and a deadline for doing our very best work at home in our gardens. Further, it is a social opportunity for us to connect or reconnect with one another and share our ideas and experiences – and the names of our favorite roses. Finally, rose shows provide opportunities for us to connect with our larger community, hopefully inspiring more people to join us in growing healthier and more beautiful roses.

Over the next few months, Marylou Coffman and I, hopefully along with a few other folks, will be writing about various aspects of entering roses in shows. After all, what is a rose show without roses? And just a few of the "old hands" cannot possibly bring enough roses to fill the tables and win all the trophies. We really need your help – and participation. We want you to know that we are here to help and encourage and make this a great experience for everyone. In this issue Marylou writes about her tips, tools, and techniques for showing roses.

TIPS, TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

BY MARYLOU COFFMAN

Now is the time to start preparing your roses for the fall rose Shows, even though the temperatures say otherwise. Keeping your roses well hydrated and fertilized through the summer will help. A good layer of mulch will help to keep the roses cooler, keep the weeds down and the moisture in. Hosing the roses off several times a week will not only keep the roses clean, but you will also see any potential problems before they can take over your garden. Chili trips and spider mites love our hot weather. Toward the end of summer, this will help you to identify roses that you might like to enter in the fall shows.

- Wedging material, such as Styrofoam or aluminum foil. Floral foam and plastic wrap are not good choices for wedging.
- Cotton balls soaked in vinegar; they help to remove mildew on leaves.
- Small artist's brush, to remove any residue or critters between petals.
- Paper towels to clean up spills and wipe down your area. You must always clean up after yourself.
- Always come prepared for any problems.
- If there is not enough table space, having a small table of your own certainly helps.
- Have your own supply of tags with your name, address and exhibitor number. Your Society should have the tags at the meeting before the show. As you begin to enter more roses, arrangements or photographs, you can also order tags from the ARS website. If you have your own, you can begin filling them out in advance.
- Rubber bands, for attaching tags to the vase.
- Arrive at the show as early as you can. If you get there early, there will be several people to help you. If you come later, most people will be busy getting their own entries ready.

Rose Shows are for everyone. As an exhibitor, you are sharing with you fellow members what roses you can grow and enjoying the camaraderie people with like interest enjoy. And most of all, you are educating the public about the roses that grow here in the desert and what fun it is to be part of our Rose Society. Invite them to join us.

We are planning a workshop on sometime in late October; we will have horticulture exhibiting in the morning and arrangements in the afternoon.



'Let Freedom Ring'

WHAT KIND OF ROSE IS THAT? WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE - DOES IT MATTER?

BY MARY VAN VLACK

On identification tags, in sales catalogs and websites, newsletters, and so on, roses are generally listed as hybrid teas/HTs, floribundas/FIs, and so on. It may be worth considering why these categories are designated, what they mean, why they might matter to a gardener and why they might matter to a rose show competitor. First, it is important to understand that this classification system is very imperfect with much overlap, roses being moved from one category to another, and hybridizers and growers cutting paths of their own through the system. Ping Lim is one hybridizer who produces some beautiful roses with an emphasis on disease resistance, but his use of the classification system can be a puzzle.

Many of these discussions begin with a study of the oldest roses and the species roses, allowing for a historical view of the development of all these categories. For many gardeners and even some exhibitors, these older roses are of less interest, however, so I will save them for last and begin with the modern roses, those most likely to appear in most people's gardens.

HYBRID TEAS

For many years, hybrid teas have been the most popular or at least the most familiar category of roses, the ideal specimen showing large, many-petaled, high-centered blooms on long stems, in a wide variety of colors, opening in a spiraling form. They are also remontant or re-blooming throughout the season and usually produce one bloom on each stem. They are very beautiful roses and much loved.

They arrived on the scene after many hybridizing efforts to cross-breed first the species or wild roses and then to cross-breed the children and grandchildren of those efforts. The first hybrid teas were crosses of European hybrid perpetual rose and Asian tea roses. The hybrid perpetuals were, in turn a cross of China roses which provided perpetual bloom and European roses which provided



many-petaled forms well adapted to a variety of climates including cold. The hybrid perpetuals had been fairly successful, but after the development of hybrid teas they have all but disappeared. Crossing hybrid perpetuals with tea roses, again from China, brought the high-centered, orderly form and more fragrance into the mix and leading to our hybrid teas. Incidentally, some people make the mistake of nick-naming hybrid teas as tea roses, but tea roses are quite different and are included among old garden roses.'

The earliest products of these crosses appeared late in the 19th C – for the sake of convenience, a rose called 'LaFrance' is generally considered the first, released in 1867. Although many more followed, the most famous is 'Peace' which was released in 1945. 'Peace' looked the way our 21st C eyes expect a hybrid tea to look with its high-centered form and yellow to pink blended color. Today we think it lacks the disease resistant foliage, long stems, and scent we want from our hybrid teas, but in its day it was stunning.

Photos on this page: top, 'Marilyn Monroe', left 'Silverado, and right, 'The McCartney Rose'



'Marilyn Monroe',

perpetual bloom and European roses which provided many-petaled forms well adapted to a variety of climates including cold. The hybrid perpetuals had been fairly successful, but after the development of hybrid teas they have all but disappeared. Crossing hybrid perpetuals with tea roses, again from China, brought the high-centered, orderly form and more fragrance into the mix and leading to our hybrid teas. Incidentally, some people make the mistake of nick-naming hybrid teas as tea roses, but tea roses are quite different and are included among old garden roses.'



Hybrid teas in the garden

Hybrid teas are almost always grafted or budded onto roots of another rose to provide stronger growth. In our climate the two most often found are 'Dr. Huey', a hybrid Wichurana rose with a rambler growth habit, and *R. fortuniana*, a species rose. Roses budded onto *R. fortuniana* are much desired in our desert climate for their ability to spread their roots and gather so much water; in addition, they usually produce taller plants with longer stems, sometimes as much as 6 or 7 feet tall. When planting hybrid teas in our gardens it is important to know how large they might grow and allow enough room. Many of us will plant them 4' apart, but some hybrid teas such as 'Marilyn Monroe' may need more space than that.

The tallest hybrid teas such as 'Louise Estes' and 'Hot Princess' are often planted at the back of the bed to avoid hiding anything else or as a screen for other things in the landscape. Some people plant only hybrid teas in their garden – because they love them so much. This is your garden, and these are your roses, so please yourself first! Many of the hybrid teas mentioned here have been planted in the Mesa rose garden and you will want to visit them.



Hybrid teas in the rose shows

Many exhibitors and visitors consider the true Queen of Show to be the hybrid tea queen, although most rose shows name other queens (from other countries, as it were). After all, this is what we expect roses to look like, and they are very beautiful. Candidates for hybrid tea queen are entered in the horticulture portion of the show and in the class identified in the rose show schedule. Usually, the schedule requires the specimen to be shown in 'exhibition stage', a term that may need explanation. A rose in exhibition stage is not a bud or a rose just starting to open, nor is it a rose where the stamens show. There are other classes for fully open (stamens showing) single (4-8 petals) or semi-double (8-20 petals). Exhibition stage is probably not the way you would cut the rose to bring inside for a vase – you might choose a bud whose sepals have just dropped

or a bloom just beginning to unfurl, but remember that the judges want to see certain elements of your flower not visible in other stages.

Show schedules often include numerous other classes for hybrid teas in both the horticulture and the challenge sections, and these usually call for blooms in exhibition stage as well. Sometimes there are classes for fully open roses, but many hybrid teas do not show very well in this stage—they have so many petals that they hide their center pistils and stamens well and sometimes their centers just aren't as pretty as some semi-double blooms can show.



Photos on this page: above, 'Marilyn Monroe' in an exhibition frame, right, 'Marilyn Monroe' in the garden

The general assumption is that there won't be any side buds on a hybrid tea. Some hybrid teas do produce sprays of two or more roses blooming simultaneously but most do not. If more than one bud appears on a cane, you may want to remove the later one(s) so the lead bud gains all the nutrition and can grow to its best advantage. The earlier this type of disbudding is done, the better. Judges may regard these extra buds as distractions. If you want to promote a spray on a hybrid tea you will want to remove the lead bud and possibly any stragglers, again as early possible, to avoid gaps in your spray. This is certainly tough love for roses, but that is what happens.

Outstanding hybrid teas in rose shows include 'Marilyn Monroe,' 'Ring of Fire,' 'Mr. Caleb,' 'Randy Scott,' 'Gemini,' 'Hot Princess,' and 'Let Freedom Ring.'



'Hot Princess'

GRANDIFLORAS

Grandiflora roses are sometimes regarded as a subset of hybrid teas; they are characterized by plant size and shape similar to hybrid teas but often taller, sometimes 6-8' tall. They usually bloom more freely than hybrid teas and usually in clusters or sprays. The first rose to be classified as a grandiflora is 'Queen Elizabeth' which was introduced in 1954. Some people argue that assignment to this class is often a bit random and 'Queen Elizabeth', planted in the Mesa Rose Garden, is the only true grandiflora. In my view 'Gold Medal' is certainly another.

Grandifloras in the garden

Grandifloras are usually planted among the hybrid teas and no one really notices the difference, except that they bloom a lot and are tall.

Grandifloras in rose shows

Grandifloras are usually combined with hybrid teas for most rose show classes, although occasionally there will be a class exclusively for grandifloras. They are usually good cultivars for creating exhibition-quality sprays with a little disbudding to remove the lead bloom very early in development so there is no noticeable hole in the center. Popular grandifloras for exhibition include 'Gold Medal' and 'South Africa'.

POLYANTHAS

Polyanthas are an older class of roses, which, for a long time were rare in home gardens and garden catalogs, on the verge of disappearing altogether; in recent years they have made a bit of a comeback, led by the efforts of Bob Martin, president of ARS and former resident of our East Valley. Typical polyanthas are rather small plants, but sturdy, flowering freely and repeatedly in large clusters of petite blooms. Their habits make them welcome residents in many landscape designs in masses and hedges. Denise Cassagrain

Their pollen parents and grandparents include *R. multiflora* and *R. wichuriana* along with some China and tea roses. The first polyantha rose is usually considered to be 'Paquerette', appearing in 1875, which is less than 2' tall and has very double 1" blooms in clusters of up to 25. Better known are 'Cecile Bruner' (1881),



'Denise Cassegrain'

'The Fairy' (1932) and 'Marie Pavie' (1888). 'Verdun' and 'LaMarne' are polyanthas planted in the Memorial Garden around the base of the statue of Senator McFarland, so-named in reference to important World War I battles.



Polyanthas in the garden.

Polyanthas often appear at the front of larger rose beds or in small beds of their own and make a great landscape choice because they bloom so freely.

Polyanthas in rose shows

If there are any classes for polyanthas in rose show schedules, they will be collected together with the floribundas. Sometimes there is only a class for polyantha sprays. But it is tricky to exhibit them because the little flowers do not all open at the same time. Often rosarians who grow them will bring them to shows just to share their appearances. Among those that have been successful in rose shows are 'The Fairy' and 'Wing Ding'.

FLORIBUNDAS

Early in the 20th C the Poulson family of Denmark began hybridizing polyanthas and their work led to the development of the roses we call floribundas, a name that was first applied to certain cultivars by Jackson & Perkins in 1930.

Polyantha actually means many-flowered in Greek and floribunda means many-flowered in Latin. Floribundas were initially bred as crosses of polyanthas and hybrid teas. Generally, they lack the bloom size and elegant form of hybrid teas, but this may be outweighed by their many fine qualities. Most bloom almost continually while hybrid teas usually bloom in flushes interspersed with a few weeks of no flowers at all. Most flowers will appear in clusters or sprays, providing big splashes of color and they tend to be sturdier, hardier plants, easier to care for.



Floribundas in the garden

For many years floribundas were much less popular than hybrid teas and almost appeared as afterthoughts in home gardens, but recent developments in breeding, improving their resistance to disease and ease of care as well as color choices have made them much, more popular. 'Iceberg' is one of the most popular roses in the world and a big favorite among landscape designers in the Valley. Tom Carruths's program of breeding mauve roses at Weeks Roses has given us 'Ebb Tide' and 'Celestial Night' while 'Julia Child', 'Doris Day' and 'Sparkle & Shine' are fine yellows. Other durable favorites include 'Hannah Gordon', 'Sexy Remy' and 'Playboy'. Floribundas are usually grafted or budded onto a different rose rootstock such as Dr. Huey.

Photos on this page: top, 'LaMarne', middle, 'Iceberg' and bottom, 'Lady of the Dawn'





Floribundas in rose shows

In recent years the classes for exhibiting floribundas have mirrored those for hybrid teas but with more emphasis on sprays and fully-open blooms. As with preparing all sprays for exhibition, early disbudding to remove the lead bud improves the appearance of the entire spray. Among the floribundas performing well in rose shows are 'Cinco de Mayo', 'Julia Child', 'Oh My!', 'Hannah Gordon' and 'Playgirl'.

Next month in Part 2 we will look at miniatures, minifloras, shrubs and other modern roses. Part 3 will consider species and old garden roses as well as other ways of categorizing roses.

Sources:

Roses in a Desert Garden by Hallie Beck, 1996, Phoenix Home and Garden Publishers

The Rose Expert by Dr. D. G. Hessayon, 1999, Transworld Publishers

The Complete Book of Roses by John Mattock, Sean McCann, Fred Witchell, and Peter Wood, 1994 Ward Lock Limited, UK

2021 Horizon Roses, Robert B. Martin, editor

2021 American Rose Society Handbook for Selecting Roses, American Rose Society



Photos this page: top, 'Sparkle and Shine' and right, 'Celestial Night'



AUGUST IN THE ROSE GARDEN

By Mary Van Vlack, CR

It's muggy on the Mogollon Rim! That's a line from a song I've heard from a local folksinger and it fits these days. I know that it's also been muggy in the Valley of the Sun. The monsoon has arrived at last! Although we're getting a few days of hot and dry again, we can hope for more moisture these late months of summer. For gardeners toiling outside, the lower temperatures are offset by higher humidity and my favorite summer outdoor task of spraying the roses up and down with cool water does not provide as much evaporative cooling relief as drier weather allows. And our evenings and nights do not cool off either. However, there are some advantages for our roses – the lower temperatures, higher humidity and rain do provide some relief and we want more and more of it for them.



Pay attention. Walk through your garden regularly. Go out early in the morning before breakfast when temperatures are coolest. Watch for signs of water problems, for evidence of spider mites and chilli thrips, and for beneficial insects you will want to protect.



Water, water, water. Continue to be generous with the water. Roses growing in containers need water daily, so if you plan to be away from home for long trips, you should consider installing a timer, drip tubing and emitters. They are at least as reliable as people we may hire or impose upon to do the job, and if something goes amiss, there is nobody to blame. Roses in the ground may need only be watered three to four times a week, but water deeply when you do water, allowing penetration to at least 10 - 12 inches. It may be necessary to water twice on the days you do water to get that penetration without run-off. Containers likely need water every day.

Water some more. Use an attachment wand on your garden hose to give you a long reach and a very powerful stream of water. Insert your wand close to the ground into the center of each bush, directing a strong spray of water upward, breaking up the colonies of spider mites and such and sending rose petals and dead leaves flying into the air. Then pull out the wand and spray the bush from the top down, washing the East Valley's contribution to our topsoil off the leaves and branches. Plants breathe through their leaves, and that reddish haboob dirt interferes with the process. Ideally, you would spray them like this at least three times every week

Deadhead your roses? At this point in the summer, I usually give up deadheading. My time is better spent with the water wand. An alternative is to remove only the spent flower just below the peduncle. Do not remove any live leaves. Your plants are probably losing enough

leaves as it is because of the extreme weather. Cutting stimulates growth, which further stresses the plant, so minimize it. Of course, it is always good to cut away any dead canes, cutting back to live wood where a branch occurs or back to the graft union. Also, do remove any suckers since they take more than they give to the plant.

Fertilize - maybe. I usually suggest summer feeding half strength about every six weeks. If you last fed your roses in May or June, you might give half or a quarter of the recommended amount now. On the one hand, all that water does leach the nutrients beyond the reach of the roots. On the other hand, fertilizers are salts and contribute to leaf burn. Water your roses really well the day before you fertilize, and then water your product in thoroughly. This is extremely important. Which product should you use? I've heard it all, but I like a fertilizer with an organic nitrogen source that breaks down slowly.



Control pests and disease. The primary pests on roses in the summer months are spider mites and chilli thrips, and these tiny guys cause serious trouble.

When the leaf surfaces appear dull or pale, the undersides of the leaves feel sandy or rough, and fine webbing appears on the leaves, the likely cause is spider mites. Spider mites are more closely related to spiders and scorpions than insects and will not respond to insecticides such as Merit (Imidcloprid). The first treatment and prevention is to spray the underside of each plant with a very strong stream of water every morning or at least every two days. If the infestation becomes severe, it must be treated with a miticide such as Avid or Floramite according to the product directions. Usually, more than one application is needed to control the problem. Mites can become resistant to

Avid, another reason why pesticides should not be used casually, but only as a last resort.

Chilli thrips are the other great menace, and they reproduce rapidly in hot weather. In weather over 100° F spraying is needed every 7 days and there is no alternative to pesticides to bring them under control. Worm castings and worm cast tea are great for prevention and maintenance, but treating a serious outbreak requires the "hard stuff" and we have found no alternative.

Use the best practices when applying pesticides. Spray as early in the day as you possible can before the bees come out and before the sun beats down on the rose beds. Cover your hair, wear a mask or respirator, and wear protective eyewear. Wear long pants, closed shoes and sox, and a long-sleeved shirt. And wear chemical-impermeable gloves. Do not eat or drink anything while you are spraying. When finished for the day, remove everything, launder your clothing, and take a nice shower.

Planting. Do not plant or transplant roses now.

What about going on vacation? Most of us plan at least one summer trip, and some of us try to be away as much as we possibly can. Many people have asked me what we do about our garden in the summer when we retreat to the Rim Country, and I would rather discuss what one can do than admit to what really happens. I think there are three choices. You can hire a knowledgeable and reliable professional to look after your garden for you. I can count on one hand the number of companies and individuals in the valley that I really trust for this, and they are busy and charge (and deserve) a pretty good fee for their services. A second option is to hire or conscript



a neighbor or relative or less capable lawn service to manage for you, but we have never had very good luck with this approach. The third choice is to allow time between trips or return regularly from your cool retreat to take care of things at home. This is hard because you are coming home to unaccustomed heat and a very heavy load of work to be accomplished in a short amount of time, but it is what we usually end up doing. This approach also means that the garden workload in late September and October is extremely heavy.

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Take care of the gardener. Even more important than taking care of the garden in the summer is taking care of the gardener. Hydration comes first – drink a tall glass of water before you go outdoors to work and take another with you, drinking before you are thirsty. It is possible to flood your body with too much water and insufficient electrolytes, so keep a hydration fluid or powder mix on hand. Know the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke and pay attention to how you feel. Wear sunscreen and a broad-brimmed hat. You can also buy special clothing with sunscreen properties. These garments were designed for fishermen and boaters and can be purchased in stores catering to these outdoors sportsmen and women. Wear gloves to protect your hands from a surprise encounter with active scorpions and black widow spiders. Finally, while you are resting indoors, check the date of your last tetanus shot. They are only good for ten years, and gardeners are in the high-risk category for this deadly disease, especially rose gardeners.

All photos in this issue, except for those in *In the Garden*, by Mary Van Vlack

Consulting Rosarians, Members of the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society

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*Master CR

MESA EAST VALLEY ROSE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP
 ANNUAL FAMILY OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP IS \$25.00.
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CALENDAR*****

MEVRS General Meeting	EVENT	LOCATION
August 12	MEVRS General Meeting 7 pm	Zoom
September 2	MEVRS Board Meeting 7 pm	Zoom
September 9	MEVRS General Meeting 7 pm	Zoom
Sept 10-14, 2021	ARS National Convention and Rose Show, 'Cream City Roses'	Milwaukee, WI
October 30	Horticulture and Arrangement Workshop MCC Garden Plaza, section 2	
October 7	MEVRS Board Meeting 7 pm	Zoom
October 14	MEVRS General Meeting 7 pm	Zoom
November 4	MEVRS Board Meeting 7 pm	Zoom
November 6	Rose Society of Glendale Rose Show, Saguaro Ranch Park	
November 13	Palm Springs Rose Show	
November 11	National Unknown Soldier Remembrance Event	Rose Garden at Mesa Community College
November 11	MEVRS General Meeting 7 pm	Zoom
November 20	MEVRS Rose Show, Rainbows of Roses	MCC
	***** ALL EVENT PLANNING CONTINGENT ON COVID PROGRESSION AND FACILITY HOST PERMISSION	

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